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2004 North Idaho Douglas-fir Tussock Moth Early Warning System Trapping Report

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Introduction

The Douglas-fir tussock moth (DFTM) Early Warning System (EWS) in North Idaho is a cooperative effort between the USDA Forest Service (FS) and Idaho Department of Lands (IDL). This system uses a series of permanent pheromone trapping sites to identify increasing populations of DFTM prior to an outbreak and tree defoliation (Daterman et al. 1979). IDL maintains DFTM trap sites from Coeur d'Alene to Moscow; the Northern Region of the FS maintains trap sites from Lewiston east and south to the Salmon River.

A pheromone trap site consists of five sticky traps baited with the DFTM attractant pheromone. Male DFTM are attracted to and caught in the traps. An average of 25 male moths per site is used as a threshold to alert managers to rising DFTM populations that could result in defoliation in subsequent years. Additional population measurements, such as larval or egg mass

sampling, is then conducted in areas of concern surrounding the trap site to determine the status of the population (Daterman et al. 1979).

2004 Trapping Results

Of 130 sites trapped by IDL, only 9 had captured moths. The overall average trap catch was 0.02 moths per trap; down from .2 moths per trap in 2003 (Appendix 1). There were no sites that averaged 25 moths per trap. The sites with the highest numbers of moths caught were east of Moscow near Deary, Idaho at Coon Creek (plot 201) and 2 miles NW of Stanford Point (plot 509), each averaging 0.4 moths per trap (Beckman 2004).

Of the 32 Forest Service-monitored sites south of Lewiston, only one trapping area (Lake Waha) produced a single male moth. Overall average trap catch was 0.01, down from an average of .1 moths per site in 2003 (Appendix 2). No moths were captured on the six new sites established



after the 2002 outbreak area near Potlatch, compared to the average trap catch of 1.3 moths in 2003.

Defoliation

There was no aerially detected DFTM-caused defoliation in North Idaho in 2004. The most recent outbreak in North Idaho (2000-2002) caused significant defoliation on the Clearwater

National Forest, and on adjacent state and private lands between Moscow and Plummer (fig. 1). DFTM outbreaks have occurred in this same general area about every 10 years since the 1940's (Randall 2002, Tunno 1973). An outbreak prior to the most recent one occurred with defoliation during only 1 year—1986. Both outbreaks were preceded by increasing numbers of moths caught in traps (fig. 1)

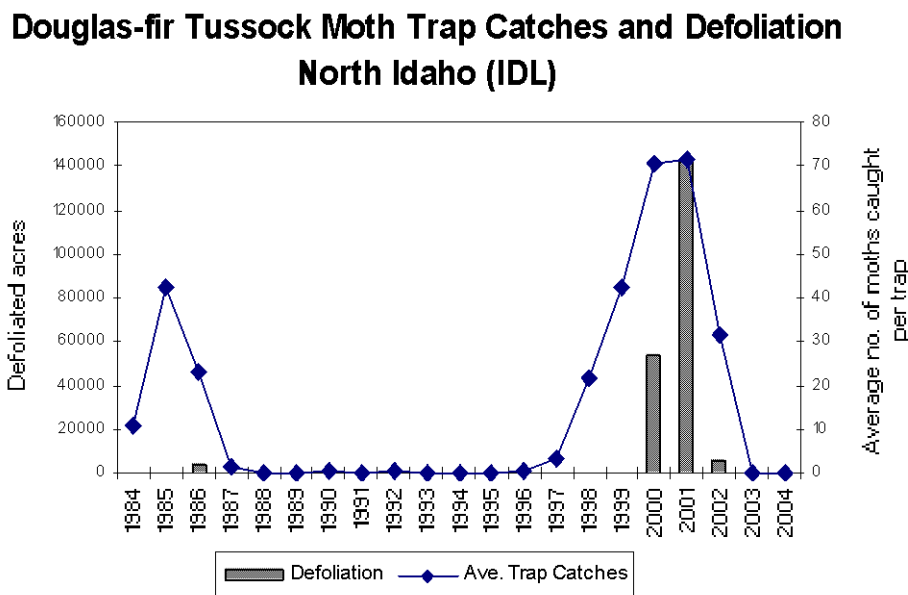


Figure 1. Average trap catches by IDL north of Moscow and aerially detected defoliation for the last two DFTM outbreaks (from Kegley et al. 2004).

Conclusions

The DFTM, EWS is effective in predicting outbreaks, but its design and intent does not define where defoliation events will occur (Sheehan and Ragenovich 2002). Land managers, with consultation from local entomologists, will need to identify and prioritize areas where management objectives are most vulnerable to significant defoliation impacts. In areas where an insecticide application may be considered to mitigate impacts, cocoon and/or larval sampling should be conducted to estimate current DFTM populations (Forest Health Protection 2005).

In north Idaho, the EWS proved effective in predicting the two latest DFTM outbreaks, which

were preceded by 3 years of increasing trap catches. However, intensity of the outbreaks could not be predicted by trapping alone. Trap catches preceding defoliation in 1986 were about the same as those preceding defoliation in 2000. But intensity of the two outbreaks was very different (Kegley et al. 2004). This confirms the need for additional population sampling (egg mass or larval sampling) to help predict trends of outbreaks (Mason and Torgersen 1983).

Trapping for DFTM will continue annually but we expect trap catches to remain very low for the next several years.

Literature Cited

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Appendix 1. Average trap catch for IDL monitored sites from Coeur d'Alene to Moscow for the past 7 years.

Plot #	AREA	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
1	Elk Mountain	*	*	*	*	13.8	0.6	0.2
2	Coeur d'Alene Mountain	*	*	*	*	8.4	0.2	0.6
3	Lolo Pass	0.0	0	8.2	110.2	91.8	16.2	1.0
4	Charles Butte	0.0	0.2	28.2	84.8	73.6	*	0.0
5	Peterson Point	0.0	0.2	15.8	101.0	56.4	1.0	1.0
6	East Dennis	0.0	1.2	75	101.2	81.2	3.0	1.2
7	East Gold Hill	0.0	0.2	14.8	53.8	83.6	27.2	6.0
8	Flat Creek	0.2	0	7.6	88.0	87.6	65.8	39.2
9	Long Creek	0.0	0.2	33.6	0.2	105.4	82.0	71.4
10	Paradise Point	0.0	0	17	91.8	81.2	59.4	31.4
11	Mineral Mountain	0.0	1.8	75.2	56.4	73.4	66.6	50.8
12	Mission Mountain	0.0	0.2	25.6	1.6	65.6	52.4	32.2
13	Spring Valley Creek	0.0	0	5.4	58.0	61.2	44.8	25.6
14	Vassar Meadows	0.0	0	95.8	102.8	83.2	16.4	2.0
15	Fairview Knob	0.0	0.2	39	105.8	33.2	4.4	2.8
21	West Twin (10-115)	0.0	0	8.8	75.4	*	37.6	20.2
22	Moscow Mtn (115-114)	0.0	0.2	5.8	78.0	90.8	53.4	*
101	S Fk Little Plummer Ck	0.0	2.8	52.2	92.4	70.0	15.4	0.0
102	Windfall Pass	0.0	0.6	40.4	99.6	74.2	12.4	11.4
103	Squaw Creek	0.0	0.2	9.4	89.2	55.2	5.4	4.0
104	Moses Mountain	0.0	0.2	6.4	67.8	19.0	2.2	4.2
105	Little John Creek	0.0	1.4	45	78.4	54.8	1.2	0.2
106	Emida Peak	0.2	2.6	64.2	75.8	71.0	*	0.0
107	North-South Ski Area	0.0	0.6	83.2	107.2	73.6	4.4	0.2
108	Bald Mountain	0.0	0	25.2	53.8	5.2	*	*
109	Laird Park	0.0	1.0	66	86.0	74.8	6.0	0.0
110	North Fork Palouse River	0.0	1.0	83.2	75.2	24.8	*	0.0
111	Mica Mountain	0.0	0.2	67.6	93.6	81.0	9.0	1.8
112	Schwartz Creek	0.0	0.2	80.6	110.6	89.0	14.2	2.0
113	Big Bear Creek	0.0	0.2	47.8	87.0	71.4	75.6	23.6
114	Big Meadow Creek	0.0	0	11.2	70.2	108.6	63.8	33.2
115	East Twin Mountain	0.0	0	7.6	85.4	87.4	55.8	52.4
116	Crane Point	0.0	0	51	89.0	63.2	5.1	3.2
117	Sheep Creek	0.0	0	27.8	83.2	79.2	53.6	59.6
118	West Fork Mission Creek	0.0	0	22.2	47.6	37.0	35.8	42.2
119	1 Mi N. of Mineral Mtn (11-216)	0.0	0	25.2	0.2	82.8	52.6	*
200	2 mi W of Plummer	0.0	0	16.2	80.2	25.0	0.0	0.0
201	Coon Creek	0.4	0.2	21.6	93.8	50.8	3.4	0.8

Appendix 1. Continued

Plot #	AREA	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
202	3 mi E of Benewah	0.0	0.6	21	102.2	*	*	0.0
203	Benewah Point	0.0	0	8.2	92.4	53.0	4.6	0.0
204	John's Point	0.0	0	23.8	*	*	*	0.0
205	3 mi E of Charles Butte	0.2	0.4	63.6	72.6	64.8	12.6	0.0
206	Sunset Mountain	0.0	0	20.8	*	*	*	*
207	Emerald Butte	0.0	0	23.2	*	*	*	*
208	Cedar Butte	0.0	0	22.4	76.2	*	*	*
209	Abes Knob	0.0	0	23.8	88.4	*	*	*
210	West Fork Deep Creek	0.0	0.2	77	90.6	91.2	74.2	20.0
211	Cherry Butte	0.2	0.4	67.2	88.6	50.6	*	0.0
212	Jackson Mountain	0.0	0	19.6	*	*	*	*
213	Red Horse Mountain	0.0	*	*	*	3.2	0.4	0.2
214	Fortier Creek	0.0	*	*	*	2.4	0.6	0.2
215	Killarney Mountain	0.0	*	*	*	4.4	1.2	0.4
216	1 mi NW of Mineral Mtn	0.0	0.2	1	0.2	93.0	36.4	29.8
217	Head of Sheep Creek (216-117-2)	0.0	0.6	21.2	97.2	101.8	66.2	62.8
300	Mission Mountain (#2)	0.0	0.6	6.4	67.0	71.2	16.0	56.8
301	1.5 mi S of Mineral Mtn	0.2	0.2	69.4	91.2	107.6	72.2	52.8
302	Middle Fork of Deep Creek 1 (301-216-1)	0.0	0	63.8	3.6	89.8	62.2	51
303	Middle Fork of Deep Creek 2 (301-216-3)	0.2	1.0	58	15.8	99.6	72.8	42.4
400	3 mi S of Mineral Mtn	0.0	0.6	75.8	86.6	108.6	92.6	47.0
401	Flynn Butte	0.0	3.2	95.2	96.4	67.8	9.2	1.0
402	2 mi SE of Browns Mdw	0.0	0	15.2	57.4	112.0	65	41.2
500	3 mi SW of Harvard	0.0	0	18.8	74.6	111.0	78.8	59.2
501	2 mi S of Moon Hill	0.0	0	16.2	97.6	70.0	72.8	44.4
502	3 mi W of Crane Point	0.0	0.6	67.6	75.0	*	*	*
503	3 mi N of Stanford Point	0.0	0	10.2	89.4	84.0	73.2	0.0
504	2 mi N of Stanford Point	0.0	0.2	47.8	86.2	75.8	52.2	0.0
505	1 mi SW of Stanford Point	0.0	0	38.4	47.0	88.0	90	48.4
506	1 mi S of Stanford Point	0.0	0	23.4	67.8	70.6	89.4	38.8
507	1 mi NE of Stanford Point	0.0	0.8	40.6	87.4	97.4	77.8	23.8
508	1 mi W of Stanford Point	0.0	0	20.6	92.4	95.2	97.8	49.4
509	2 mi NW of Stanford Point	0.4	0.4	43.2	81.6	95.6	75.8	46.0
510	Moon Hill	0.0	0.8	35	67.2	66.2	71.4	42.6
511	2 mi SE of Moon Hill	0.0	0.2	13.2	80.4	72.6	*	*
512	3 mi S of Mineral Mtn	0.0	0.2	70.2	*	*	*	*
513	2 mi SW of Moon Hill	0.0	0	9.6	9.2	75.8	44	8.0
514	1.5 mi NW of Avon	0.0	0	6.8	61.4	68.6	13.0	0.0
601	1 mi NW of Elk Mtn	0.0	*	*	*	8.4	0.4	0.0
602	Pleasant Creek	0.0	*	*	*	0.4	0.0	0.0
603	West Fork Fortier Creek	0.0	*	*	*	3.2	0.8	0.2
604	Elk Mountain	0.0	*	*	*	15.4	0.8	0.2
605	Rose Creek	0.0	*	*	*	8.2	0.4	0.0

Appendix 1. Continued

Plot #	AREA	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
701	Fourmile Creek	0.0	0	9	88.6	46.4	*	*
702	North of Granite Point	0.0	0	5.8	76.0	81.6	*	*
703	Spring Valley Creek	0.0	0	12.2	96.6	92.4	*	*
704	West Fork Big Bear Creek	0.0	0.2	13.2	61.0	41.4	*	*
705	2 Mi NW of Stanford PT	0.0	0.4	46.4	89.4	84.6	*	*
706	1 Mi S. of Iron Mtn	0.0	0	27.2	87.8	22.2	*	*
707	Iron Mtn	0.0	0	6.6	97.0	23.0	*	*
708	Little Bear Creek	0.0	0	65.6	108.6	*	*	*
709	Quartz Creek	0.0	0	50.4	96.2	*	*	*
710	Turnbow Creek	0.0	0.2	43	70.6	*	*	*
711	East Fork Flat Creek	0.0	0.2	55	71.4	85.8	*	*
712	Turnbow Point	0.0	0.2	7.8	38.0	79.4	*	*
713	3 Mi S. of Potlatch	0.0	0	6.6	30.0	4.2	*	*
714	Rocky Point	0.0	0	13.2	79.6	40.2	*	*
715	Hatter Creek	0.0	0.2	7.4	32.0	22.4	*	*
716	Head of Big Meadow Creek	0.0	0	11.8	80.8	82.4	*	*
717	Nora Creek	0.0	0	21.2	81.4	58.4	*	*
718	Crummaring Creek	0.0	0	12.4	70.4	68.8	*	*
719	Basalt Hill	0.0	0	19	11.6	92.8	*	*
720	Browns Meadow	0.2	0.2	11.2	2.6	97.6	*	*
721	Smith Creek	0.0	0	100.2	70.6	*	*	*
722	Prospect Peak	0.0	0	31.2	56.8	85.6	*	*
723	West Fork Mission Creek	0.0	0	27.8	22.2	87.4	*	*
724	Huckleberry Mtn	0.0	0	16.6	77.2	43.4	*	*
725	North Fork Pine Creek	0.0	0	21.6	93.0	15.0	*	*
726	Mineral Creek	0.0	0	20.2	78.0	76.2	*	*
727	South of Sanders	0.0	0	77.8	86.8	32.4	*	*
800	Mason Butte	0.0	0	20.8	63.0	*	*	*
801	Moctileme Butte	0.0	0	30.2	91.4	*	*	*
802	Plummer Butte	0.0	0	24.8	75.2	*	*	*
803	Little Plummer Creek	0.0	0	18	54.4	*	*	*
804	Lindstrom Peak	0.0	0	21.2	66.4	*	*	*
805	John Point	0.0	0	20.4	61.6	*	*	*
806	Pettis Point	0.0	0	22.6	71.2	*	*	*
807	Beaver Mtn	0.0	0	17.8	55.6	*	*	*
808	Renfro Peak	0.0	0	14.8	44.2	*	*	*
809	Crystal Peak	0.0	0	10.4	29.4	*	*	*
810	Head of Child Creek	0.0	0	17.2	52.8	*	*	*
811	Hobo Pass	0.0	0	7.8	25.4	*	*	*
812	Hemlock Butte	0.0	0	9.2	28.2	*	*	*
813	Carpenter Peak	0.0	0	18.8	57.8	*	*	*
814	Tyson Creek	0.0	0	30.2	87.6	*	*	*
815	Willow Peak	0.0	0	25.2	85.2	*	*	*
816	Sunset Mtn	0.0	0	31	86.2	*	*	*

Appendix 1. Continued

Plot #	AREA	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
817	Willow Creek	0.0	0	22.2	73.2	*	*	*
818	Head of Emerald Creek	0.0	0	28.2	86.0	*	*	*
819	Emerald Butte	0.0	0	25	75.2	*	*	*
820	Head of Bobs Creek	0.0	0	25.4	79.0	*	*	*
821	East Fork of Potlatch River	0.0	0	25.2	67.2	*	*	*
822	Head of Moose Creek	0.0	0	24.8	69.6	*	*	*
823	Beals Butte	0.0	0	39	106.2	*	*	*
	* not trapped							
	Total Average	0.02	0.2	31.3	71.5	70.4	43.5	22.1

Appendix 2. Average trap catch for FS monitored sites south of Lewiston for the past 11 years, and 6 sites trapped in 2002, 2003, and 2004 near Potlatch.

Plot ID	Site Name	Site #	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
1.0	Keuterville	3-1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.0	Johnson	5-1	0.0	0.0	4.8	4.0	0.2	3.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.0	Summit Landing	5-6	0.0	0.2	0.0	14.6	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.0	Cottonwood Butte	3-2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5.0	Shin Pt	5-7	0.0	0.0	1.3	13.2	0.2	3.6	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
6.0	Cooper	5-10	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.8	2.2	1.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7.0	Lake Waha	4-1	0.2	0.0	0.0	10.2	0.0	0.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
8.0	Skull Cr	5-9	0.0	*	*	*	5.2	2.2	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
9.0	Canyon Junction	6-1	0.0	0.0	0.8	11.2	*	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10.0	Forest	4-6	0.0	*	*	*	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
11.0	Swanson Cr	5-8	0.0	1.4	0.0	17.5	0.0	1.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
12.0	Fan saddle	6-2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
13.0	Webb Cr	4-5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
14.0	Angel Butte	5-2	0.0	0.4	0.8	5.8	0.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15.0	Lodge Pt	1-1	0.0	0.2	1.2	1.6	0.4	4.6	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16.0	Black Pine	4-2	0.0	*	0.2	18.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
17.0	Bald Mtn	5-5	0.0	0.2	9.0	36.0	0.0	3.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
18.0	Big Tinker	1-5	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.4	1.6	2.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19.0	Junction	4-3	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20.0	Bargamin Cr	5-4	0.0	0.0	4.8	35.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
21.0	Potatoo Hill	1-4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	3.0	1.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
22.0	Captain John	4-4	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.6	0.0	*	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
23.0	Grangemont	5-3	0.0	0.4	2.2	16.2	0.0	1.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
24.0	Pine Knob	1-3	0.0	0.0	1.0	4.8	0.0	2.8	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25.0	Christie Cr	2-2	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
26.0	S. Cow Cr	2-5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
27.0	Cow Cr Saddle	2-3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	*	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
28.0	Rhett Cr	2-1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
29.0	Low Saddle	2-4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30.0	Goddard	1-2	0.0	*	*	*	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
31.0	Wickiup B		0.0	*	*	*	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
32.0	Craigmont		0.0	*	*	*	0.0	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Total Average of sites south of Lewiston		0.01	0.1	1.0	8.3	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.0
33.0	Laird Park	7-1	0.0	0.0	52.2								
34.0	Little Bald Mtn.	7-2	0.0	0.2	22.0								
35.0	Little Boulder Cr.	7-3	0.0	0.4	40.4								
36.0	W.Fork Potlatch R.	7-4	0.0	2.4	40.4								
37.0	Elk Creek Falls	7-5	0.0	4.8	15.8								
38.0	Morris Creek	7-6	0.0	0.2	26.5								
	Total Average of sites near Potlatch		0.0	1.3	32.9								
	*Site not trapped												

